GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4242
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2001
ENCROACHMENT ON PAVEMENTS OF NEW DELHI
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shops and vending are not allowed on roads and pavements in New Delhi area as per the directives of the Supreme Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the common man is facing a lot of inconvenience in traffic owing to encroachment on roads and pavements in all the major markets and particularly around the Connaught Place area which has taken place in connivance with the police and NDMC; and

(d) if so, the details of the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): The Supreme Court of India held in the case of Sodan Singh Vs. NDMC that the municipality has full authority to permit hawkers and squatters on the sidewalks wherever it is praticable and convenient, but a citizen cannot have a right to occupy a place on pavement where he can squat and engage in trading business.

(c)&(d): The sites on the streets and markets in the NDMC area were identified by Chaturvedi Committee appointed by the Supreme Court of India. These sites were allotted to nearly 760 squatters whose claims were verified by another Committee appointed by the Supreme court.

The New Delhi Municipal Council conducts daily raids to remove unauthorised construction in its area.During the year 2001, (upto November, 2001) 18,287 encroachments were removed.